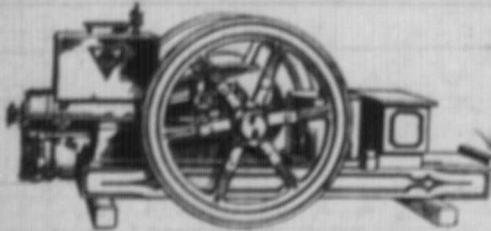


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Cannot Fix Coarse Grain Prices

One Difficulty Would be to Find Buyer at Fixed Price—By
R. Magill, Chairman Board of Grain Supervisors

SOME of the farmers have asked why prices cannot be fixed upon coarse grains as on wheat. Probably there are others who have not written on the matter who would like to know the answer. In the case of wheat there was no difficulty in finding a buyer for the exportable surplus produced in this country, and there was not a very great difficulty in securing a guarantee of the price fixed.

As regards coarse grains, the position is quite different. To begin with the authorities in the United States did not fix prices on coarse grains, and, it is, as a rule, desirable that grains on the two sides of the line should be handled, as far as possible, on a similar policy. But, in addition to this, Canada has an exportable surplus in each of the coarse grains, and we cannot find a buyer who will take our coarse grain surpluses at fixed prices, and who will guarantee these prices for the crop year.

Take for example oats. The price of oats has been running higher in Canada than in the United States. The Allied governments were able to secure most of their requirements in oats at United States prices. They did not need, therefore, to buy Canadian oats at the higher price, and they would not guarantee to take Canadian oats, of which there will be a surplus, at the higher price.

If on the other hand a price were fixed by our Board at the United States level, while the United States declines to fix a price, producers of oats in Canada would have ground for objecting.

Special consideration was given to the advisability of fixing a price on rye. It was intimated to the Board of Grain Supervisors, that Canada might be able to consume her whole crop of rye this year, owing to the policy of substitute flours adopted by the Canada Food Board. It was therefore considered that it might be advisable to prohibit the export of rye from Canada, and to fix a price on Canadian rye. The Board of Supervisors was quite willing to prohibit the export of rye, and to fix a price on it, provided the government, or the Canada Food Board, would take the rye as offered at the fixed price.

The quantity of rye Canadian mills can grind at any one time is not very large, and the difficulty was to find someone who would buy the rye when the farmers wanted to sell it, and hold it until the mills could grind it, the fixed price remaining the same throughout the year. Only the government, or a body authorized by the government, and furnished with the requisite funds, can do this. While the matter was considered by the Canada Food Board, and referred to the government, no decision has been communicated to the Board of Grain Supervisors along this line.

It is not difficult to name a price, and it is not difficult to fix a price if there is no exportable surplus, but where there is an exportable surplus, naming or fixing a price, without providing a buyer for the surplus, who will guarantee to take it at the fixed price, would leave the producers worse off than before.

A Visitor Sadly Astray

Strange Delusions and Misconceptions Recorded by "The Professor Abroad" from Toronto—By J. B. Reynolds, President of Manitoba Agricultural College

SOME observations by "The Professor Abroad," in the Canadian Courier, of October 26, on the "New Agricultural College," at Winnipeg, call for a brief comment:

The parks are beautiful, and though past the middle of September, there were enough flowers in bloom to make, with the beautiful autumn foliage, a picture I shall not soon forget. Great open spaces well cared for, animals not crowded up in small enclosures, but as nearly as possible in natural surroundings, and a general policy of non-interference with nature except in the matter of good roads, speaks well for some far-seeing "City Father," who must have championed the cause of the people.

But of the other opportunity for wonder and admiration, let me say but little. It is not admiration that is evoked, but amazement that there should be in a province noted for its agricultural possibilities a group of buildings which reveal in every possible way, extravagance and the influence of the city as contrasted with that of the country. It beggars description, and I was not surprised to hear that few of its students "return to the land." The contrast could hardly be greater.

These, then, are two of the impressions upon the wandering professor in the days spent in Winnipeg. It was pleasant to see in the spacious and home-like Fort Garry Hotel, at the luncheon of the Canadian Club.

Illusions and Imaginations

"Abroad" is good. My father was in the habit of using that term when speaking of a certain mental state. "All abroad" in the language of the Cornishman, means the same as "non compos mentis" in the language of the Oxonian. The professor was very much abroad when he thought he was attending a meeting of the Canadian Club at the Fort Garry. He was abroad either when he visited the Agricultural College or when, in the spacious homelike of the Fort Garry or the MacDonald, he tried to recall his impres-

sions of that visit. He is all abroad alike in his praise of the parks (!) at the College, in the simple credulity with which he accepts the hoary fallacy that agricultural college students do not go back to the land, and in his Philistine understanding of the spirit of the place.

Parks at the Manitoba Agricultural College! We only wish there were, but as there are not, we do not care to concede to the professor abroad even that opportunity to damn the institution with faint praise. There is a fringe of trees along the river, a few clumps of small shrubs about the grounds, a few scattered trees of indigenous growth, a nursery of several hundred young trees for transplanting, and, east of the College grounds a large bush of native trees known as a poplar bluff. The bluff, by the way, belongs to the University of Manitoba. But parks! And that by a Toronto professor!

And that venerable fiction indulged in by all those who are ill-disposed to agricultural colleges, the delusion that their students do not return to the farm! No one who has taken the slightest trouble to discover the facts could be guilty of repeating such an obvious untruth. One might say much to justify agricultural colleges even if a large proportion of their students did not follow farming. But the figures all point the other way.

The Wanderer Misreads the Facts

Evidence that he is a "wandering professor" in more than the geographical sense is found in his misreading of the character of the place. It revealed to him "the influence of the city as contrasted with that of the country." Like the Philistine in Goethe's "Gedichte," he views the

temple from the mountain, sees a picture dim and dim but come within brightness touches the intense views the ag only as means provided-hoppers how to and how to be cham Holsteins. Naturally intense point of view ment of the Mani College must seem rid out. In the same it are set forth the a women for bettering

To make farm thereby keeping to the farm.

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Frankie realize ing his sister in t occupied and stay the co-operation o old sister as mes proved a loyal lit while Hilda four dence in the help

This is an acti monstrates the v and may well te the grown-ups o will do likewise community lives



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